

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL
ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUT
TROOP 7

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 7 of Grapevine, Texas. This troop has a rich history of developing boys into responsible young men.

Boy Scout Troop 7 was founded in 1913, only three years with William D. Boyce founded Scouting in the United States. The origin of Troop 7 began when the Mayor of Grapevine, Benjamin Richard Wall, traveled to New York to learn about scouting. He returned home to Grapevine with the number 7 Boy Scout Unit Charter, one of the first charters west of the Mississippi River. Mayor Wall was actively involved with the troop from its founding until 1954.

In 1923, Troop 7 was chartered in Arlington, Texas, but it moved back to Grapevine in 1931 whereupon it was chartered to the Grapevine Business Men's League. In 1932, the group's charter transferred to the Grapevine City Council under Mayor Ernest E. Lowe as the Scoutmaster. In 1939, the Grapevine Lions club assumed the troop's charter. The Lions Club till this day continues to support Troop 7 by collaborating with the scouts at Grapevine festival events. The St. Lawrence Episcopal Church hosted the troop charter from 1976–1978. The charter lapsed in 1979 which broke the long tenure for Troop 7. St Francis Catholic Church in Grapevine became the chartering organization in 1980 and continues as such today.

As of today, Troop 7 is led by Scoutmaster Don Blan, who is an Eagle Scout. Troop 7 has over 50 scouts who actively assist community organizations such as Bluebonnet Hills during its Memorial Day service, schools, municipalities, and other organizations that benefit from Eagle Scout projects.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 7 on its 100th Anniversary.

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY
ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1406, The Working Families Flexibility Act. This bill is a sham! It does not offer working families flexibility, nor does it protect employee rights. But what it does is strip employees of their rights by eliminating the Federal Labor Standards Act statute guaranteeing overtime pay for time worked over 40 hours per week.

It shifts control of overtime from a monetarily incentivized program for the employee to an employer-controlled one incentivized by cheaper labor and less need to hire more

workers. This bill also contains no avenue for employees to file grievances if requests for time off are denied or not responded to.

Under H.R. 1406, after the employee makes a request to use compensatory time, the employer's only responsibility is to permit the employee "to use such time within a reasonable period after making the request if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the employer." There is no responsibility on the part of the employer to respond in a timely manner or accommodate an employee request.

H.R. 1406 turns back years of hard won victories for American workers and their families by undermining the Federal Labor Standards Act and giving the employer virtually complete control over when the overtime is used.

The AFL-CIO, the Communication Workers of America, the National Partnership for Women & Families, and numerous other organizations oppose this bill. However, imagine my surprise when I received an e-mail from the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce also urging me to oppose this bill!

As a rule, Chambers of Commerce usually support "pro-employer" bills. However, in this case, the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce wrote, "all employers want as low a payroll expenditure as possible but there is a reason to be concerned that employers incentivized by H.R. 1406 would reward those employees who agree to "comp time" in lieu of overtime payments. Employers incentivized by a reduced payroll might well give "comp time" employees the preferred shifts, the needed hours, and the promotions. There is no protection in H.R. 1406 against this kind of employer behavior."

Make no mistake about it—H.R. 1406 hurts American workers and their families. This bill is just another Republican attempt to destroy the American worker. So I ask my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 1406.

HONORING OUR NATION'S TEACHERS
FOR THEIR COMMITMENT
TO EXCELLENCE

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise for National Teacher Appreciation Day. I would like to thank Ms. Lillian Anderson who gave me my first exposure to government with a 4th grade class history project on the State of Illinois at Ben Franklin School in Glen Ellyn. I still have the folder with the assignment featured in my district office to remind me of why I entered public service. Unfortunately, Ms. Anderson passed away a few years ago but I am reminded of her invaluable contributions to the community every time I am back home.

We often take our teachers for granted. We drop our children off at school or send them to the bus stop and pick them up at the end of the day, but the job of our nation's teachers is hardly 9–5. It starts well before the children arrive and continues long after they leave.

We forget that the job involves countless hours of preparation; weekends spent shopping for supplies, and most importantly working with our students to help them become the next generation of authors, doctors, young professionals, and yes, even teachers.

I encourage everyone to take time at their next parent teacher conference or other interaction with you children's teacher to take a moment and thank them for all the hard work they are doing to prepare the next generation.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
CONSOLIDATION OF WINSTON-
SALEM, NC

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the residents of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, part of which is located in my congressional district, as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of the consolidation of the Town of Salem and the City of Winston. Winston and Salem consolidated on May 9, 1913 and the city is now hosting a four day celebration (May 9–13, 2013) to celebrate this historic consolidation.

Today, Winston-Salem has approximately 229,000 residents, is the fourth largest city in North Carolina and is the county seat of Forsyth County. Winston-Salem is a city with a focus on education and healthcare. It is the home of Winston-Salem State University, Salem College, Wake Forest University, the North Carolina School of the Arts, Forsyth Technical Community College, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and Forsyth County Hospital. Winston-Salem is also a city with a focus on the arts. Along with the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, it is home to the Reynolda House Museum of American Art, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art and the National Black Theatre Festival.

I wish all the best to Mayor Allen Joines and to the residents of Winston-Salem as they celebrate "Winston-Salem Centennial 1913–2013."

THE STORY OF OUR TIME

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in light of ongoing budget discussions and damaging sequestration cuts to programs that help our most vulnerable populations, it is time to end the austerity debate. I urge all of my colleagues to read and consider Paul Krugman's New York Times Opinion piece, "The Story of Our Time."

Those of us who have spent years arguing against premature fiscal austerity have just had a good two weeks. Academic studies that supposedly justified austerity have lost credibility; hard-liners in the European Commission and elsewhere have softened their rhetoric. The tone of the conversation has definitely changed.

My sense, however, is that many people still don't understand what this is all about. So this seems like a good time to offer a sort of refresher on the nature of our economic woes, and why this remains a very bad time for spending cuts.

Let's start with what may be the most crucial thing to understand: the economy is not like an individual family.